



## **SUBSTANCE ABUSE EPIDEMIOLOGY WORK GROUP**

September 16, 2009

1:00 p.m.

Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC)

1110 West Washington Street

Room 145

Phoenix, AZ 85007

A general meeting of the Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group (Epi Work Group) was convened on September 16, 2009 at the Arizona Criminal Justice Commission (ACJC), 1110 West Washington Street, Room 145, Phoenix, AZ 85007, notice having been duly given. Present and absent were the following members of the Epi Work Group:

<b>Members Present (11)</b>	
<b>Phillip Stevenson, Chair, Arizona Criminal Justice Commission</b>	
<b>Wendy Wolfersteig, Vice-Chair, Arizona State University (via teleconference)</b>	
<b>Richard Porter, Arizona Department of Health Services</b>	
<b>Sgt. Gail Spore, Arizona Department of Public Safety</b>	
<b>Catherine Osborn, Arizona Department of Education</b>	
<b>Emma Kibisu, Arizona Department of Health Services/Division of Behavioral Health Services (via teleconference)</b>	
<b>Michael Dolny, Arizona Department of Corrections (via teleconference)</b>	
<b>Meena Shahi, First Things First (via teleconference)</b>	
<b>Katherine Guffey, Arizona Department of Economic Security (via teleconference)</b>	
<b>David Choate, Arizona State University</b>	
<b>Zeenat Mahal, Inter Tribal Council of Arizona (via teleconference)</b>	
<b>Staff/Guests Present (3)</b>	<b>Members Absent (5)</b>
Jeanne Blackburn, GOCYF, DSAP	Dennis Embry, Paxis Institute
Steve Gendler, AZ Department of Public Safety	Michelle Anderson, AZ Department of Juvenile Corrections
Angela Baldasare, Pima Prevention Partnership	Jody Sekerak, Indian Health Service
	Gowri Shetty, ADHS
	Amy Stuart, AOC



A. **Call to Order**

**Chair Phillip Stevenson** called the meeting to order at 1:11 p.m. with eleven (11) members, one (1) staff and two (2) guests present.

B. **Welcome and Introductions**

**Chair Phillip Stevenson** asked each member to introduce him/herself.

C. **Review of Packet and Agenda**

**Chair Phillip Stevenson** reviewed the packet and agenda with the members.

D. **Approval of Minutes**

**Chair Phillip Stevenson** requested a review of the August 26, 2009 meeting minutes.

- After **Zeenat Mahal** noted a correction, **Wendy Wolfersteig** moved to approve the meeting minutes with the correction. **Catherine Osborn** seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed with eleven (11) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) members abstaining from the vote.

E. **Announcements**

- **David Choate** notified the group members that he presented Arizona Arrestee Reporting Information Network methamphetamine use data to the Methamphetamine Task Force (MTF) of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP) at its September meeting.
- **Richard Porter** notified the group that the *Arizona Health Status and Vital Statistics 2008* report is complete and preliminary findings on the number of births by race/ethnicity indicate that there has been a decrease in the number of Hispanics in Arizona; it is estimated that between 130,000 and 260,000 left Arizona in 2008.
- **Wendy Wolfersteig, Vice Chair** announced that the Partnerships for Success (PFS) grant awards were made; Arizona was not one of the four states awarded a grant.
- **Meena Shahi** reminded members that First Things First (FTF) lists its grant opportunities on its website: <http://www.azfff.gov>, with grants recently listed for Physician Outreach and Education and Mental Health Consultation Administration.

F. **ASAP Update**

- **Wendy Wolfersteig, Vice-Chair** updated the group members on the September meeting of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership (ASAP).
  - **Beth Kohler Lazare**, ASAP Chair, discussed the need for continuing collaboration among member agencies and the importance of avoiding duplication of efforts.
    - No new funding or policies are anticipated due to time and effort required around the budget.
  - **Jim Copple**, President of Strategic Applications, provided the group an overview of the Drug Endangered Children (DEC) focus area and the protocols needed to protect these children.
  - **Mike Fronske**, Assistant Director of the Arizona Department of Health Services (ADHS), Division of Behavioral Health Services (DBHS) presented on the findings and recommendations from the Auditor General's Report of the agency's substance abuse treatment programs, indicating that the agency is planning to implement all recommended changes.
  - **Jeanne Blackburn** announced that the National Guard is available to provide free life skills training to youth as a drug demand-reduction strategy.



#### G. 2009 Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile Review Process

- **Chair Phillip Stevenson** began the conversation about the review process for the 2009 *Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile*.
  - Members noted that in the past, the review process has required members to examine the material related to their specialty area.
  - **Chair Phillip Stevenson** suggested that the review process could be better determined once the table of contents or an outline is received from Bach Harrison.
  - **David Choate** suggested that each person volunteer to review an area so that the responsibilities are clear.
  - **Jeanne Blackburn** and **Phillip Stevenson** will examine the entire report for overall flow, consistency, etc.
  - The process will include a review by staff from Governor Jan Brewer's Office for Children, Youth and Families after the Epi Work Group members have finished reviewing the document.
  - **David Choate** motioned that a document be written to describe the processes undertaken to create and review the *Substance Abuse Epidemiology Profile*.
  - The motion was seconded by **Zeenat Mahal**.
  - The motion passed with eleven (11) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) members abstaining from the vote.

#### H. Sustainability of the Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group

- **Chair Phillip Stevenson** asked the group members to discuss whether the Epi Work Group will remain of value to the state after the Strategic Prevention Framework State Incentive Grant (SPF SIG) funding ends in September 2010.
  - The group members agreed that the group is necessary and beneficial to the state.
    - **Richard Porter** expressed that the group is very valuable because of the number of data personnel represented from a broad range of agencies.
    - **Angela Baldasare** suggested the importance of the group's work as it applies to the state's ability, and the ability of its communities, to apply for and be awarded grant dollars from the federal government.
    - **Jeanne Blackburn** mentioned that the data from the Epi Work Group informs the work of the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families and guides the work of the Arizona Substance Abuse Partnership.
  - **Chair Phillip Stevenson** asked the group members to think of ways in which the group can be maintained after the SPF SIG funding ceases.
    - **Catherine Osborne** suggested that each agency involved could provide funding toward a staff person.
    - **David Choate** suggested that ASU might be able to provide interns for staffing purposes.
  - **Chair Phillip Stevenson** suggested that the issue be revisited throughout the year as more information becomes available about resources from the Governor's Office for Children, Youth and Families.

#### I. Future Agenda Items

- **Chair Phillip Stevenson** reminded the group that "Future Agenda Items" will be a standing agenda item. This time will be used for members of the group and the public to suggest items to be placed on future agendas. This month's agenda items were suggestions made at the August meeting.
  - Two group members submitted items to be placed on the agenda for the October Epi Work Group meeting.



J. **Call to Public**

**Chair Phillip Stevenson** made a call to public.

- There were no public comments.

K. **Adjournment**

- **Richard Porter** moved to adjourn the meeting at 2:45 p.m. and **David Choate** seconded the motion. With no further discussion, the motion passed with eleven (11) ayes, zero (0) nays and zero (0) members abstaining from the vote.

Dated the 21<sup>st</sup> day of September 2009  
Substance Abuse Epidemiology Work Group  
Respectfully Submitted By:  
Jeanne Blackburn  
Data Analyst, Division for Substance Abuse Policy